

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 AEC-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1325

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, SY, LE

SUBJECT: EXXON UPHELD IN LEBANON ON SYRIAN CUSTOMS CLAIM

1. BRYON JONES, EXXON MANAGER LEBANON, ADVISES THAT LEBANON HIGH COURT NOVEMBER 13 RULED THAT A 1967 SYRIAN COURT JUDGEMENT AGAINST FORMER ESSO DIVISION SYRIA FOR ALLEGED BACK CUSTOMS DUTIES CANNOT BE ENFORCED AGAINST ESSO STANDARD (NEAR EAST) INC., LEBANON, UNDER 1951 SYRIAN-LEBANESE JUDICIAL AGREEMENT. RULING MADE ON MERITS, NOT TECHNICALITIES, SAYS JONES, ADDING THAT DECISION ELIMINATES POSSIBILITY OF SYRIAN ATTACHMENT OF EXXON ASSETS LEBANON.

2. CASE INVOLVED 1960 SYRIAN CLAIM FOR \$29 MILLION IN CUSTOMS DUTIES SYRIAN CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES CLAIMED ESSO STANDARD (NEAR EAST) INC., SYRIA DIVISION, OWED ON 1951-59 LUBRICATNS IMPORTS FROM ESSO AFFILIATE, PENOLA OIL COMPANY. SYRIA NATIONALIZED ESSO SYRIA DIVISION MARCH 4, 1965. NATIONALIZATION CASE AND THIS CUSTOMS CASE STILL UNRESOLVED IN SYRIA.

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Message Attributes

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